

REMARKS

This Response, submitted in reply to the Office Action dated April 15, 2009, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 17-22 have been withdrawn from consideration.

I. Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-16 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Misawa (US PGPub 2004/0016983, hereinafter referred to as “Misawa”) in view of Shimoda et al (US Patent 6,887,650, hereinafter referred to as “Shimoda”).

Claims 1-13, 16 and 23

Applicant notes that Misawa can be removed with respect to claims 1-13, 16 and 23 by perfecting a claim to foreign priority. The earliest effective filing date of Misawa is July 17, 2003, which is after the priority date of March 25, 2003, of the present application. In addition, the priority documents for Misawa (JP 2002-208550) published on February 19, 2004, and therefore, would not qualify as prior art. Accordingly, Misawa may be removed with respect to claims 1-13, 16 and 23 by perfecting the foreign priority, i.e., by filing a verified translation of the foreign priority document. Applicant submits herewith a verified translation of priority documents JP 2003-083446 (filed March 25, 2003) and JP 2003-320271 (filed September 11, 2003).

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-13, 16 and 23 are fully supported by JP 2003-083446 which was filed on March 25, 2003. Since Applicant has perfected priority for the present application and since the priority document fully supports the subject matter of claims 1-

13, 16 and 23, Applicant submits that Misawa does not qualify as prior art with respect to claims 1-13, 16 and 23 and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 14 and 15

The Examiner appears to concede that the prior art does not disclose the elements of claims 14 and 15 and therefore rejects claims 14 and 15 by merely asserting that the claimed elements are obvious. See paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7 of the Office Action. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that it would be obvious to incorporate the elements of claims 14 and 15 in view of the cited art.

Shimoda at most discloses that viscosity (see column 25, lines 36-41) and thickness (see column 27, lines 20-25) with respect to an adhesive are taken into consideration. However, Shimoda does not explicitly disclose the range of the viscosity and thickness as recited in claims 14 and 15. Specifically Shimoda and Misawa do not teach or suggest “wherein the viscosity of the adhesive is 100 Pa·S to 10000 Pa·S when the adhesive is transferred to the spacer from the transfer member” (claim 14) or “wherein the adhesive has the thickness from 0.5μm to 5.0μm after the adhesive is activated” (claim 15).

Therefore, Applicant submits that the prior art does not recognize viscosity and thickness of an adhesive as a result effective variable to ensure proper bonding. It is well-settled that only results-effective variables may be optimized to support a rejection. Therefore, it would not be obvious to modify Shimoda and Misawa to include the viscosity and thickness as recited in claims 14 and 15.

Therefore, claims 14 and 15 should be deemed allowable.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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